Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 OIC-02 CTME-00 JUSE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /169 W

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: BORDER TAXES

1. ALTHOUGH THE TOKYO ROUND WILL NOT PROVIDE A SOLUTION TO THE ISSUE OF BORDER TAXES, WE CANNOT ALLOW OUR DIFFERENCES HERE TO BE IGNORED. AT LEAST THE U.S. SHOULD ESTABLISH CLEARLY IN OUR COMMENTS, FORMAL STATEMENTS AND FINAL NEGOTIATING POSTURES THAT THE QUESTION OF BORDER TAXES, WHILE NOT CONSIDERED TECHNICALLY A SUBSIDY, STILL REMAINS ONE OF MAJOR CONCERN TO US AND AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF DISEQUILIBRIUM IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING PROCESS.

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2. MCDONALD REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON FORMAL POSITION WE CAN CONSISTENTLY ADVOCATE DURING FINAL STAGES OF NEGOTIATIONS. THIS MIGHT INCLUDE COMMENTS THAT THE U.S. MAY TAKE A VARIETY OF COUNTERBALANCING TAX ACTIONS DURING THE PERIOD AHEAD IF NECESSARY UNTIL THIS ELEMENT OF TRADE DISTORTION IS FINALLY NEUTRALIZED. MCDONALD

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